Scott P. Brown

U.S. SENATOR FROM MASSACHUSETTS

TRIBUTES

IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES





Scott P. Brown

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Tributes Delivered in Congress

Scott P. Brown

United States Senator 2010–2013



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BIOGRAPHY

SCOTT P. BROWN was born on September 12, 1959, in Kittery, ME. He graduated from Wakefield High School, Wakefield, MA, in 1977 and went on to earn a BA from Tufts University in 1981 and a JD from Boston College Law School in 1985. He has served in the Massachusetts Army National Guard from 1979 to the present, attaining the rank of colonel and serving in the Judge Advocate Generals Corps.

He began his career in public service as an assessor and then a selectman in the town of Wrentham. He was a member of the Massachusetts State house of representatives from 1999 to 2004 and the Massachusetts State senate from 2004 to 2010. As a State legislator he advocated for children's and victims' rights, never voted for a tax increase, and worked to promote environmental and good government initiatives.

He was elected to the U.S. Senate in the January 19, 2010, special election for the seat previously held by Senator Ted Kennedy. He took the oath of office on February 4, 2010, and served until January 3, 2013. He served on the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

SCOTT BROWN is a free-market advocate who believes America's strength as a nation derives from the ingenuity and hard work of its people. He believes in a culture of family, patriotism, and freedom.

In the U.S. Senate he fought for lower taxes, less government spending, and pro-growth polices that will put people back to work. He approached each piece of legislation in an independent manner, always looking for ways to work across the aisle and get the country moving.

He lives in Wrentham with his wife Gail. He has two daughters, Ayla and Arianna.

Farewell to the Senate

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I rise to give my closing floor speech for this session of the Senate.

From the date of my swearing in on February 4, 2010, until the last day I serve in this great Chamber, which is 1 month shy of 3 years serving, I still say and believe that, aside from my marriage to my wife Gail of 26 years and the birth of my two children, Ayla and Arianna, serving in the greatest deliberative body for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in the people's seat, has been the greatest honor I ever had in my life. I thank the people of Massachusetts for that opportunity. To think that someone such as myself, whose parents were married and divorced 4 times each, who lived in 17 houses by the time he was 18 and was subjected to various forms of abuse growing up, still has the honor to serve in one of the greatest deliberative bodies, as I said, in the world, is something I will not soon forget.

To the young people sitting here and who may be watching, take it from me that in this country, even when it seems that you are fighting against all odds, anything is possible for you. There are no obstacles that cannot be overcome so do not give up, and always follow your dreams.

As I have said before, people have no business in politics unless they respect the judgment of the voters. If you run for office, you have to be able to take victory or defeat in a gracious manner. I do respect the judgment of the voters. I accept their decision in this election with the same attitude and sense of appreciation I held when I arrived in this Chamber almost 3 years ago.

When I was sworn in, I was the 1,914th Senator accepting the oath of office by signing the book right up at the clerk's table. There were many Senators who served before me and there will be many Senators who will serve after my service is over. That my name is listed among them is very humbling.

To all the people of Massachusetts, I greatly appreciate the confidence you placed in me for the past 3 years in allowing

me to represent you in the Senate. To my colleagues, I thank you for the courtesy and friendship you afforded me during my time here. When I arrived, I promised I would read the bills, see how they affected Massachusetts, see how they affected our country, our debt, and our deficit, and I would vote in an independent manner based on the merits of that issue rather than political partisan politics. I am proud I kept that promise to be independent. I am proud my voting record has identified me as the second most bipartisan Senator in the Senate, as referenced by *Congressional Quarterly*, and that I was named as the least partisan Senator in the Senate by *Washingtonian* magazine.

It was that independent and bipartisan approach that provided me with an opportunity to stand with the President at the White House on three separate occasions in the past 2 vears to see bills I had either sponsored or played a key role in securing their passage signed into law. I was honored to work with my colleagues-many who are here today and many who are listening—on both sides of the aisle on legislation that was signed into law to move our country forward, including the STOCK Act to ban insider trading by Members of Congress—I know the Presiding Officer [Mrs. Gillibrand] played a key role in that as well—the hire a hero veterans bill to help our veterans who are fighting for jobs actually have opportunities to be hired by employers who are looking for those heroes; the crowd funding legislation which will help young entrepreneurs get access to new capital and create jobs, something I hope the SEC will immediately come up with a rule on so these people can start creating jobs and raising money; legislation to reform Wall Street, where I was the deciding vote to strengthen our country's financial system; legislation to eliminate an onerous 3-percent withholding tax; eliminating a stealth tax that would have affected government contractors—that is also gone; legislation to ensure our fallen heroes receive the dignity and respect they deserve at the Arlington National Cemetery, that is something new that is also fixed; and many other congressional actions that have made a difference not only in Massachusetts but in this great country. These are all shared successes, and I was proud to be part of each and every one of them.

I have always said in order to do our business as our country's leaders we must do our work in a bipartisan, bicameral manner to ensure the actions taken by Congress benefit all Americans, not just those of one political party or one political party or one political party or one political party or one political party.

ical ideology. During my time here and now as I am leaving, I have been and still am deeply concerned about the lack of bipartisan efforts to solve our country's most pressing economic challenges and in turn move our country forward. Many times political party and personal gain are put before the needs of our country. I know we can do it better. The American people expect us to do it better. As I leave, I challenge the leadership on both sides of the aisle to make the process more open and transparent. I challenge Members to work with each other in a more open and honest manner, and I challenge the President and the congressional leadership to also work together immediately to address the concerns and needs of our country because, after all, we are Americans first and our country deserves better.

In closing, I see my staff here. Many of them were here from the beginning. They came from applicants, over 4,000, for a very select few jobs. I thank Vanessa Sinders, my chief of staff, and each and every one of the staff for the amazing work they have done in very interesting times. To come here as the 41st or the 60th Senator and have the media scrutiny and all the commentary from every special interest group around the country, in the middle of a Senate that was grid-locked—to come here and have an opportunity to make a difference and do it well without making any mistakes is something I think benefited Massachusetts but also benefited this great country. It allowed for the debate to resume once again to eliminate a supermajority so one side could ram through things in which the other side had no play or no involvement.

That is not what our country is about. That is not what this Chamber is about. We deserve better. The people of Massachusetts and the people of this country deserve better. They deserve to have their voices heard. Every person in this Chamber has one vote. To think that one side or the other, depending on who is in charge, is going to stifle that one Senator, from whatever part of the country, not to let him or her have their moment to express their views on something that is important to them and their constituency, to shut that off and put your thumb on it is not the way we should be doing it.

I am deeply concerned about any changes in the rules that are being proposed to eliminate the ability for both sides to do battle in a thoughtful, respectful manner. If you see the movie "Lincoln," you see that even back then they were battling most of the time to convince each other to go one way

or the other. Since when has it been a problem to have vibrant debate in the Senate, in this great Chamber? Since when? What is everybody scared about? I don't understand that. I am hopeful the leaders will come together and recognize we need to have that vibrant debate. That is what makes this Chamber unique among any other form of government around the world. To take that away and limit it I think is a big mistake.

I wish to say thank you, obviously, to the people of Massachusetts for entrusting me to sit in the people's seat for the past 3 years. I thank my colleagues who are here, with whom I have had some great friendships and opportunities to work together. As I said many times before, victory and defeat are temporary depending on what happens and where we go. All of us, obviously, may meet again, and I am looking forward to continuing on with those friendships, continuing on working with my staff.

I thank you for this opportunity to speak.

TRIBUTES

TO

SCOTT P. BROWN

Proceedings in the Senate

Monday, December 10, 2012

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, last week I came to the floor and was honored to give tributes to some of our departing colleagues. Tonight I am going to take advantage of this time to pay tribute to two other outstanding Senators, colleagues and friends of mine whom I will miss greatly. They are Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison and Senator Scott Brown.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine is recognized.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, when Scott Brown, a fellow New Englander, came to the Senate 2 years ago, I immediately saw in him those traits shared by the people of our two New England States: a strong work ethic, a determination to always do what he thought was right, and a spirit that was independent and dedicated to doing what was best for his constituents and for his country.

My initial assessment was confirmed by our time working together on so many issues. Scott conducted his inspiring 2010 campaign via his now legendary pickup truck. When he got to Washington, he kept his foot on the gas. His work in government at the State and local level in Massachusetts and his distinguished service in the Army National Guard prepared him with experience that made him a respected and effective legislator from day one. His intellect, energy, and character made him a valued colleague and a dear friend.

Scott is a person one could always count on. I have had the opportunity to work closely with Scott on so many key issues. In each and every case he brought an informed, thoughtful, and open-minded approach to every issue.

As the ranking member of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, I have gotten to know Scott very well and I appreciate his service on our committee. He placed his top priority on helping to keep our Nation safe from the continuing threat of terrorism. He also

worked hard to make our Federal Government more efficient and transparent.

With Scott's leadership, the Senate passed bipartisan legislation to help put the Postal Service back on a more sound financial footing and to ensure that this institution could endure. He also authored the STOCK Act, the new law that clearly prohibits insider trading by Members of Congress and their staff.

Scott has long been an effective champion for our small business owners, working to ensure that entrepreneurs and innovators in Massachusetts and across the country have the ability to survive and thrive and, most of all, to create good jobs. He has advocated for our Nation's veterans through the Hiring Our Heroes Act that he coauthored, which provides tax credits to small businesses that hire a returning veteran or member of the National Guard Reserve.

Scott has been a devoted advocate in the Senate for fiscal responsibility and a balanced budget amendment. At the same time, he kept a firm commitment to helping those most in need. He fought hard for such vital programs as the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which is so important to getting through those cold New England winters.

Equally important to Scott's hard work in the Senate has been the approach he has always taken in legislating. He studies the issues. He seeks areas where a consensus can be found. From the very first day in the Senate, he demonstrated his belief that compromise is not a dirty word but an absolute necessity if we are to meet the challenges facing America. Scott always looked at the issues before Congress not through the lens of a partisan politician but, rather, through the lens of a pragmatic problem solver.

SCOTT's tenure in the Senate has been far too brief but, perhaps more important, it has been characterized by a remarkable degree of success in transforming good ideas into public laws. Given his Maine roots and strong commitment to Massachusetts, I am sure we will remain good friends in the years to come. But, oh, how I will miss serving with my friend Scott Brown.

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor my colleague, Senator Scott Brown, who will leave the Senate at the conclusion of the 112th Congress. Senator Brown won a

special election in 2010 to fill the seat of the late Senator Edward Kennedy, but his service to the State of Massachusetts began many years ago.

Senator Brown began his career in public service in 1992, working as a real estate assessor for the town of Wrentham, MA. In 1998, he was elected to the Massachusetts House. Six years later, he was elected to the State senate, where he was known as a strong advocate for veterans issues. As a State senator, he championed legislation that created a check-off box on State income tax forms for veterans to indicate service in Iraq or Afghanistan so that they could be efficiently notified of benefits.

His work on behalf of veterans is not surprising considering Senator Brown has proudly served in the Army National Guard since enlisting at age 19 when he attended college at Tufts University. Once elected to the U.S. Senate, his commitment to military and veterans issues continued as he served on the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Armed Services, and the Veterans' Affairs Committees.

Although his time in the Senate was short, Senator Brown advanced several initiatives, including several that assist servicemembers and their families. He successfully included a provision in the 2012 National Defense Authorization Act, which made certain that members of the National Guard and their families receive a fair housing allowance when deployed overseas. Senator Brown also worked across the aisle on legislation that demonstrated his commitment to our troops. He fought to provide greater oversight at Arlington National Cemetery, ensuring proper burials of America's fallen heroes and secured a provision to create the Office of Service Member Affairs at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to help returning servicemembers avoid financial fraud.

The hard work and dedication that Senator Brown has shown during his years of public service will surely bring him continued success in the future. I thank Senator Brown for his service in the Senate and wish him the best.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, I rise to comment about some wonderful men in the Senate who are retiring on both sides of the aisle. Earlier today I spoke about my deep affection and sorry-to-see-go friends Olympia Snowe and Kay Bailey Hutchison, but I want to rise as the dean of the women in the Senate to say some very special words about very special men on both sides of the aisle. Because when I came to the Senate, it was only Nancy Kassebaum and me,

and yet we worked on so many issues together. There are really wonderful men here who supported me, supported our issues, but really stood up for those States and their communities. . . .

I wish to say a word about Senator Scott Brown. Many of you know that I was a social worker and a child abuse worker. I want to say personally, I so admire Senator Brown's candor and being forthcoming when he shared with the world his own child abuse experience in his book, Against All Odds. He not only experienced the terrible thing that happened to him, but he went on to talk about how he handled this terrible tragedy. I must say, I compliment him. It was a model, that as a young boy this terrible event would not hold him back. I am sure his powerful words helped many others come into the light. As a former child abuse social worker, I want to thank him publicly for what he has done not only in this institution but to help other boys—and even girls—who also faced a terrible tragedy and refused to be a victim but went on to do well. I wish him well. . . .

I wanted to be sure that the day would not end without my acknowledging these wonderful people who have given a big part of their lives to making this country a better place. I want to, in the most heartfelt way—I am so sorry we did not have a bipartisan dinner or party to be able to express this. I would have liked to have been in the same room, breaking bread with them, in order to be able to tell them how much we appreciate them, across party lines, across those lines that ordinarily divide us. They came from different parts of the country, they arrived in the Senate with different objectives, they will leave under different circumstances. But I want to again let them know that each and every one of them had a positive impact on me and I think a wonderful impact on the future of this country. So I wish them well. God bless and Godspeed.

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I would like to continue the difficult task of saying goodbye to Senators who will not be with us in the next Congress. Sadly, that includes Senator Scott Brown of Massachusetts.

Senator Brown came to us already something of a political legend. In just a few short years, he leaves behind an outsized legacy. We all remember how Scott rose to national

prominence in the election literally heard about around the world. After the death of Senator Kennedy, there was an open seat in Massachusetts and a special election to fill it. Few people even entertained the thought of a Republican winning. And for good reason. Few States are as synonymous with political liberalism.

Democrats outnumber Republicans in the State 3 to 1, and the entire congressional delegation is composed of Democrats. But supported by his wife Gail and their daughters, along with some key early allies, including our own Senator McCain, Scott appealed to the State's political independents, ran a flawless campaign, and won. As he put it on election night, he beat the odds and the experts, and the people became the machine. I think the 2006 GMC Canyon that Scott drove around during the election should actually go to the Smithsonian.

We all remember that night, and, in particular, Scott's acceptance speech. Most people focus on what he said about his daughters, but the speech itself was a masterpiece. It perfectly summed up the political moment, and it captured something essential about Scott's success; that is, the notion that no politician has a right to his or her seat; that we are all here to serve our constituents.

SCOTT said:

Every day I hold this office, I will give all that is in me to serve you well and to make you proud ... [and] most of all, I will remember that while the honor is mine, this Senate seat belongs to no one person and to no political party, and as I have said before, and you said loud and clear today, it is the people's seat.

SCOTT lived up to his promise. He captured the imagination of the entire country when he corrected David Gergen by telling him the so-called Kennedy seat was, in fact, the people's seat. He carried that message straight to Washington.

I remember Scott telling me in our very first meeting that I could not count on his vote, that I would have to earn it. I told him he could do whatever he pleased. While he has not been here long, he has certainly made his mark. I have seen a lot of politicians in my day, but few have been as talented as Scott Brown. He is a unique talent. I have no doubt we will see him back in Washington someday in the not too distant future.

The truth is, Scott's victory was not the first time he had done what others thought impossible. As a young man, he knew poverty first hand, and a broken home, and even took to shoplifting to feed himself and his sister. Yet Scott overcame these early challenges. As is often the case, he owes a lot of it to an adult who saw his potential early on.

In Scott's case, that adult was Judge Samuel Zoll. When Scott showed up in his chambers one day, Judge Zoll saw a troubled but decent young man who needed a friendly nudge.

"We had a long talk about [the] talent I thought he had, and I didn't want to see him squander it," Judge Zoll later recalled.

Scott, of course, remembers it a little differently, saying the judge "verbally kicked [his] butt."

The judge ordered Scott to write a 1,500-word essay about disappointing his family. After reading it, he told Scott he would give him a break this time, but if he ever stole anything again—anything—he would be sent to jail. Judge Zoll's lesson stuck so deeply that the two men remained friends until Judge Zoll's death last year.

Scott went on to be a baseball star in high school and in college, earning the nickname "Downtown Scotty Brown." That was for his accuracy with a 3-point shot. Then he went to law school, the Army National Guard, held city and State political office, where he was 1 of just 5 Republicans in a body of 40 in the State senate and then the U.S. Senate.

Senator Brown also famously found time to do a little modeling in his youth, and it was through this work that he met his wife Gail. I have had the pleasure to get to know Scott and Gail well over the last 3 years. They have two daughters and make an absolutely wonderful family. I am sure Gail, Ayla, and Arianna are very proud of Scott and just as sad as I am to see his tenure cut short. But they should be proud of the fact that Scott has accomplished a lot in 3 short years in the Senate.

He led the charge to repeal a burdensome withholding tax that hurt small businesses. He crafted legislation for crowd funding, which allowed job creators to raise startup funds for their businesses over the Internet with less red tape, and he introduced legislation to ensure that children's hospitals have access to discounts on orphan drugs that are used to treat rare diseases. All of these bills are now law.

As a 32-year member of the National Guard, Senator BROWN takes a special interest in our men and women in uniform and their families. He introduced legislation to give businesses incentives to hire veterans, who, sadly, have higher unemployment rates than the national average. He

introduced and saw to passage legislation creating the Office of Service Member Affairs to protect troops who are often targeted by financial fraud and scams. He saw to the passage of legislation making it easier to void government contracts with businesses found to be funneling taxpayer resources to terrorist groups. He fought for National Guard members and their families to receive their fair housing allowance when deployed overseas.

Although his work in the Senate has come to an end, I am sure Scott Brown's work in public service, in whatever capacity, will not. He is still a young man with a bright future ahead of him. I, for one, am very much looking forward to seeing how he uses his talents next.

From the statehouse to the Senate, from the modeling shoot to the basketball court, Senator Scott Brown has always made his own success. I do not think he knows any other way.

SCOTT, it has been an honor serving with you. You not only made history, you made a difference. You should be proud.

Thursday, December 20, 2012

Mr. REED. Madam President, at this time, I wish to take a few minutes to salute my colleagues who are retiring at the end of this year with the conclusion of the 112th Congress: Daniel Akaka of Hawaii, Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico, Scott Brown of Massachusetts, Kent Conrad of North Dakota, Jim DeMint of South Carolina, Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas, Herb Kohl of Wisconsin, Jon Kyl of Arizona, Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut, Richard Lugar of Indiana, Ben Nelson of Nebraska, Olympia Snowe of Maine, and Jim Webb of Virginia. They have all worked ceaselessly to give their constituents the best representation and give the country the benefit of their views, their wisdom, and their experience. They are men and women who are committed to the Nation, and they have every day in different ways contributed to this Senate and to our great country.

I wish to thank them personally for their service, and, in so many cases, their personal kindness to me; for listening to my points and for, together, hopefully, serving this Senate and this Nation in a more positive and progressive way. In particular, let me say a few words about some of the Members with whom I have had the privilege to work more closely. . . .

SCOTT BROWN has drawn from his over 30 years of experience in the National Guard to advocate for our servicemembers. I am particularly pleased we were able to work together to create the new Office of Service Member Affairs at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. . . .

I could go on with all of my colleagues, just thanking them for their friendship, for their camaraderie, and for their commitment to the Nation and the Senate. As they depart, they have left an extraordinary legacy. Now it is our responsibility to carry on in so many different ways, and I hope we measure up to what they have done. If we do, then we can go forward confidently.

With that, I yield the floor.

Friday, December 21, 2012

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I want to give my thanks to Senator Scott Brown, who leaves the Senate at the end of this session. I have not had the privilege of working with Senator Brown for as long as I have worked with many of the other Senators who are concluding their service here. I am grateful for his work as a member of the Armed Services Committee, and for his support for some of the important reforms that helped put a cop back on the beat on Wall Street.

Scott's road to the Senate was not easy. Like all too many American children, he was the victim of abuse by those who were obligated to care for him. Senator Brown overcame great odds to become a U.S. Senator—odds that had little to do with politics. He is an example of our power to achieve despite great challenges, and we can all learn from that example.

Senator Brown was one of a handful of Members who crossed party lines to support the Dodd-Frank Act, which provided vital reforms of the financial sector in order to help prevent a repeat of the financial crisis that crippled our economy. He and I disagreed on several important provisions of the act, and we disagree in many ways on how it can best be implemented. But his vote was very important to its passage.

As a servicemember for more than three decades, including a deployment to Afghanistan, Senator Brown has brought a

valuable perspective to the Armed Services Committee. He has spoken eloquently of the need to honor our Nation's solemn obligation to our troops, our veterans, and our families. He has advocated for the National Guard and supported significant policy changes that are important for our servicemembers, such as supporting victims of rape or incest and repeal of "don't ask, don't tell." I thank him for his contributions to the committee's important work in fulfilling its obligation to servicemembers and their families.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, now that the 112th Congress is coming to a close, the Senate will have an opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of those Senators who will be returning home at the end of this session of the Senate. One Senator I know I will miss in the days to come is Senator Scott Brown.

Looking back it is hard to believe that Scott has only been a Member of the Senate for about 3 years. He has had an impact on our day-to-day deliberations over those years that far outweighs the time he has been a Member of the Senate. That speaks volumes about his ability to make the best use of his resources so that he could have an impact on those issues that concern the people of his home State.

When Scott was elected to the Senate he became the first Republican Senator from Massachusetts to have made it here in more than 30 years. For me, that is proof of the kind of candidate Scott was and the effectiveness of the campaign he ran.

His success in what was a very difficult race proved that Scott is a natural politician. He has a remarkable ability to grasp the core of the issues before the Senate and determine their possible impact on the people back home. He understands the people back home and he knows how they think and how they feel about the issues before the Senate. Equally important, Scott is able to explain those issues in simple, easily understood statements that stick in the minds of the people who hear him. He has a way with words that helps to win people over.

When SCOTT came to the Senate people were not sure what to expect. Was he going to tend to follow one party or the other exclusively? No. SCOTT took up each issue individually, measuring them all with the yardstick of his principles and his determination to be an effective representative of the people of Massachusetts who sent him to Washington. It was not going to be easy, but SCOTT proved himself to be well up to the task.

As soon as he arrived, Scott found himself in the thick of a number of legislative battles. He took on each issue carefully and thoughtfully, which thoroughly confused all those who thought they had Scott all figured out. Scott proved to be an independent individual who was determined to do everything he could to make a difference in Massachusetts and in Washington. He soon proved he was able to do all of that and so much more.

For 3 years, Scott has been an important addition to the day-to-day life of the Senate. I have no doubt we have not heard the last from him. He only needs to take a moment to see what he is interested in taking on in the next chapter of his life. He has a wealth of talent and ability and more important, he genuinely cares about the future of our Nation and all of the people who make up his home State and our Nation. There is a lot of opportunity out there for Scott and I know he will take full advantage of it.

Thanks, Scott, for your service. Thanks for working so hard to get here, and once you did, thank you for never doubting in your ability to make a difference. You have helped to make changes both here and back home in more ways than you will ever know. Thank you, too, for your friendship. For 3 years you have been a strong and powerful advocate for the future of Massachusetts and you can be very proud of all you have achieved during your time in the Senate.

Thursday, December 27, 2012

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, Senator Scott Brown came to the Senate in an untraditional manner: winning a special election to fill the seat left by one of the giants of the Senate, Ted Kennedy. While his tenure has been just 3 years, I have appreciated Senator Brown's willingness to work across the aisle on two very important issues: reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act, and working to end human trafficking.

It happens that I have authored legislation to address these two very issues, and so it has been through the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act and the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act that I have seen Senator Brown take a dedicated approach to protecting victims of violence. He is a cosponsor of both these bills, a

strong supporter of the goals behind them, and a vocal proponent of their enactment.

Senator Brown has also been a friend of the National Guard. Himself a Guardsman for over 30 years, he was one of 68 cosponsors of my Guard Empowerment Act, to give the head of the National Guard a seat with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, where decisions are made every day about our Nation's military, including the National Guard and Reserve. As a Guardsman himself, he understands the strains placed on families here at home when the Guard, like any unit of the military, is deployed, as has happened so many times in the last decade. I appreciated Senator Brown's support on this important law.

Senator Brown has charted his own path in his short time here in the Senate, and I expect the ventures he undertook while serving here will continue. I wish him and his family the best.

Friday, December 28, 2012

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute to the Senators who will not be returning when the 113th Congress commences next month. I have already spoken about Senator Kyl and about Senator Inouye, one of the truly great Americans and giants of this institution. At the time of his death, Senator Inouye was just a few weeks short of celebrating 50 years of Senate service. Only Senator Byrd served in this institution longer.

Turnover is a natural occurrence, but it's important to acknowledge that the Senators who are departing have served in the Senate for a combined total of 237 years, or nearly 20 years per Senator, on average. Add Senator Inouye, and the total is close to 300 years. That service represents an enormous amount of expertise on issues ranging from national defense and foreign affairs to the Federal budget to energy policy. The departing Senators will also take with them vast institutional knowledge and bipartisan friendships and working relationships that will leave a void we will need to fill. . . .

Mr. President, Senator Brown shook the political establishment when he won a special election in 2010 to replace the late Senator Ted Kennedy. Senator Brown was the first Republican to win a Senate race in Massachusetts since Senator Edward Brooke won reelection in 1972. Senator Brown

previously served in the Massachusetts State House of Representatives from 1998 to 2004 and then in the State senate from 2004 to 2010.

Senator Brown has been here just a short time, but he has been in the thick of things, given his willingness to reach across the aisle. According to Congressional Quarterly, he has the second-most bipartisan voting record in the Senate, and helped the majority pass the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge, STOCK, Act, which he coauthored; the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which was passed with exactly 60 votes; the repeal of the Department of Defense's "don't ask, don't tell" policy; the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment, HIRE, Act, and the New START Treaty. In the wake of the horrific shootings at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT, Senator Brown was one of the first Republicans to express his support for reinstating the assault weapons ban. On a more parochial note, I would note that 9 months ago he started serving as an active member of the Maryland National Guard, and we are grateful for his service. . . .

Mr. President, these men and women who will be leaving the Senate soon have made extraordinary sacrifices to serve our Nation. We are fortunate that they have chosen to spend significant parts of their lives in public service. All Americans owe them a debt of gratitude. Those of us who will be in the Senate next month when the 113th Congress convenes can best honor the legacy of our departing colleagues by reaching across the aisle as they have done so many times to forge bipartisan consensus and solutions to our Nation's most vexing problems. The men and women who will be leaving the Senate at the end of this Congress understand that compromise isn't a dirty word; it is the genius at the heart of our political system. We will miss them.

Sunday, December 30, 2012

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise to recognize Senator Scott Brown's service to the Senate. While we have only had the opportunity to work together for 2 years, I have truly appreciated Senator Brown's insight, leadership, and friendship.

Senator Brown moved to Massachusetts as a young boy. He graduated from Wakefield High School, then joined the Massachusetts National Guard when he was 19. After attending Northwestern University and graduating from Tufts University and Boston College Law School, Senator Brown began serving the people of Massachusetts in 1992, first as a real estate assessor and then as a selectman in Wrentham. In 1998, he was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives, and after three terms he was elected to the Massachusetts State Senate. In each of his State senate reelection bids, he ran unopposed. As a State legislator, he advocated for children's and victims' rights as well as veterans affairs and worked to promote good government initiatives.

Senator Brown came to the U.S. Senate in 2010. He quickly found his voice on the Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs Committees thanks to more than 30 years of service in the National Guard. I was proud to join more than 30 of my colleagues in cosponsoring his Stolen Valor Act, which would make it a crime to knowingly misrepresent military service if a person wanted to profit from his or her lie.

Senator Brown also worked on good government initiatives in the Senate, leading bipartisan efforts to repeal a provision of law requiring Federal, State, and local governments to withhold 3 percent of payments due to contractors. I was proud to cosponsor his bill to avoid making infrastructure improvements more costly and business more challenging for health care professionals who accept Medicare payments.

I have also been proud to work with Senator Brown on another commonsense initiative in this Congress, the Prompt Notification of Short Sales Act. Our bill would improve the housing market by requiring banks to provide a written response to a short sale offer within 75 days of a request from a homeowner. There are neighborhoods across the country full of empty homes and owners who have legitimate offers, but unresponsive banks, and I commit to Senator Brown that I will continue to work on this issue in the coming year.

Clearly Senator Brown has served the people of Massachusetts and the people of the United States well, and he will be missed. I wish the best to him, his wife Gail, and their daughters Ayla and Arianna.

Monday, December 31, 2012

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise to express my gratitude to Scott Brown, with whom I have enjoyed the privilege of serving for the past 3 years. During that time, Senator Brown and I served together on the Homeland Se-

curity and Government Services Committee, which I have chaired, as well as the Senate Armed Services Committee, where he and I have worked closely together as chairman and ranking member.

Senator Brown's life story is a testament to our power to overcome any obstacle. His aptly titled memoir, *Against All Odds*, describes how despite suffering through a childhood in which he had to steal in order to help feed his sister and in which he was the victim of abuse, he rose to attend college and law school, serve in the Army National Guard, and eventually be elected to the U.S. Senate. Senator Brown should be a role model to every young American who looks at themselves in the mirror and wonders whether they can overcome the obstacles in their path, because he has.

Senator Brown has been an invaluable Member of the Senate and the committees on which he has served, lending a voice of reason in an ever more partisan time. As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator Brown played a critical role in the debate on whether to repeal the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, grilling witnesses at the committee's hearings on the issue throughout the year. Senator Brown was forthright in his view that the law should not be changed until Congress fully understood any possible risks associated with acting on the issue, but after he had studied the report issued by the Defense Department's working group tasked with reviewing the issue, he lent his strong voice in support of repeal. For that, I am grateful, as are the tens of thousands of gay and lesbian servicemembers who no longer serve under the threat of separation because of who they are.

In the 112th Congress, Armed Services Committee's Subcommittee on Airland, he and I were responsible for overseeing the tactical aviation and land power programs of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. It was a great pleasure working with Scott on these important matters, and I always benefited from his experience as a guardsman when reviewing these programs.

As a member of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, Senator Brown fought for and achieved passage of the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act, STOCK Act, a bill that forbids Members of Congress and their staffs from profiting in any way from the information they obtain as part of the job that is not public. It is a testament to his service in the Senate that one of SCOTT Brown's most notable accomplishments was a bill to uphold

the standards of the ethical behavior of Congress. It was an honor to work with Senator Brown on this important effort.

As ranking member on the Federal Financial Management Subcommittee, Scott Brown joined his chairman, Tom Carper, along with full committee ranking member Susan Collins and me to introduce the bipartisan 21st Century Postal Service Act, which the full Senate endorsed on April 25, 2012. This bill reflected many hours of tough negotiations in which Scott played a key role, and set out a balanced plan to get the Postal Service's finances back in order.

Senator Scott Brown has enriched the work of the Senate and the lives of his colleagues over the past 3 years. He brought to the Senate not only his considerable talents but a great sense of humor, which was particularly helpful in the 3 tough years he was here. I wish him and his family all the best as he opens a new chapter of his own life. I know that he will continue to serve our country in ways that really matter.

Thursday, February 7, 2013

ORDER FOR PRINTING OF TRIBUTES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be printed as a Senate document a compilation of materials from the *Congressional Record* in tribute to the retiring Members of the 112th Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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